Appendix II. (a)

Vide Answer to Unstarred Question No. 12.

Statement of Latin Christian Engineers and clerks in the Nagercoil P. W. D. Division from 1-1-1115 to 1-1-1117.

Name of officers.	Scale of pay.	Pay or salary
		Rs.
1. Mr. A. Michale	S. P. T. 25-40 grade clerk	31 per mensem
2 ,, Joseph Jacob	Temporary clerk 25-40	31 per mensem
3. ,, V. George	Ag. clerk 20-25 grade.	20 per mensem

Appendix II(b)

Statement of Latin Christian Engineers and clerks promoted in the Nagercoil Division from 1-1-1115 to 1-1-1117.

Name of officers.	Grade to which promoted.	Pay or salary.
1. Mr. Joseph Jacob	Temporary clerk 40-70 grade.	Rs. 30 per mensem

PRESIDENT: Order, order. There has been a considerable amount of agitation and many questions in the House have been asked regarding the Inspectorate. The Government came to the conclusion that certain probationary Inspectors of Police should be appointed and trained and for that purpose wanted a selection to be made. Many officials and many important non-officials have put forward the claims of relations actual and prospective and I have received numerous private letters and given many interviews on that matter. A large number of persons were interviewed by the Public Service Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Police. It was represented to me that that inspection was imperfect and did not give satisfaction. A large number of letters came to me complaining of those inspections. Subsequent to the inspections, dozens of letters came to me from certain officials and many non-officials, complaining that their relations or their prospective relations had not been chosen and should have been chosen. In order to put a quietus to all this and to divert the blame

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from either the Chief Secretary or the Inspector General of Police or the Public Service Commissioner, I have resolved to take the entire blame upon myself. Whether I shall choose any one out of the 300 or whether I shall make any choice at all or shall postpone the choice for 6 months or one year, is a matter as to which I shall take full responsibility. That is the position.

Letters have been received imputing corruption in the matter of selection and the acceptance of bribes either actual or prospective on the part of several functionaries high and low. This is a sad state of affairs and how to deal with this is a matter engaging my attention.

Order, order. I have to make a somewhat serious statement to this honourable House arising out of a meeting which was held in the Pettah Railway Maidan at 5·30 P. M. over which an honourable member of this House, Mr. K. Janardhanan Nair presided. The object of the meeting was to devise measures to put down undue profiteering by merchants. Mr. Janardhanan Nair made an opening speech in which he said that the Dewan did not give satisfactory replies to certain questions about profiteering and that during the time of the last war officers in the Police Department could become rich by furthering the cause of merchants selling provisions. Now citizens could see that no such chances are given to officers. He said that Government should provide all facilities, even make payments of money to the peasants for better cultivation.

Mr. Thundathil Gopi in his speech mentioned that Government were doing all possible help to the public to stock and supply provisions at minimum prices but that Government alone could do nothing without the co-operation of the people. He said that without proper food no defence against the enemy invasion was possible and that the failure of Germany in the last war was due to the shortage of foodstuffs. He pointed out that at Chengannoor an organisation known as the National Guard had been formed and that similar organisations should be started in all other places to take up this work.

Mr. Punnoose in pointing out that the weather conditions were unfavourable to have open air meetings stated that he had written to the Inspector General of Police and the Chief Secretary to Government for permission to hold the meeting in the Jubilee Town Hall. He said that the Inspector General did not reply and the Chief Secretary sent a reply expressing his regret to consider the prayer. He advised the audience to make a move to establish National Government in Travancore with the co-operation of Messrs. Pattom, T. M. Varghese, C. Kesavan, Mannathu Padmanabha Pillai and V. K. Velayudhan and observed that only such a Government would be able to stop the profiteering by the merchants. He added that he had no faith in the Government and the Police in such matters and a National Government should be established as early as possible. He said that it was the duty of every Travancorean to defend himself from the enemies and that the high-paid foreigners would go away at the sight of danger.

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[President.]

He pointed out that the communists in British India had been released and that they had arrived at an amicable settlement but that the communists here were still where they had been. He concluded with a warning that he was determined to fight for justice whatever the consequences be.

The President in his concluding speech said that this meeting would be followed by similar meetings in every nook and corner in the State without the least fear about any prohibitory orders from Government and will try to establish a well organised National Government in Travancore.

Now, I wish to make it clear that I have no quarrel with the sentiments expressed by the honourable member or other speakers at the meeting regarding steps to be taken to combat profiteering or corruption on the part of officers, if any. But the suggestion made at the meeting that there should be meetings all over the State at this juncture for the purpose of starting a movement in favour of a national Government, whatever may happen elsewhere, in an Indian State cannot be acceded to. Honourable members may take it that if there is going to be a whirlwind agitation conducted for constitutional purposes or with constitutional objects at this juncture when the enemy is almost thundering at the gate, every step will be taken to prevent such a commotion taking place, for the feelings of the people are likely to be greatly exasperated on account of the scarcity of food supplies and other difficulties. I should have thought that this would be elementary wisdom which will be borne in mind by the patriots of this country. As I am not likely to be in the State for a short period, and after I saw the proceedings of this meeting, I thought it was my duty to make this statement. Honourable members must realise that there is a fundamental difference between the system of Government and objectives of agitation in British India and in an Indian State. The Government in an Indian State may be run today by means of or through a foreigner. Tomorrow it may be run by a son of the soil. But whoever may be the agency for the running of that Government, the Government in every Indian State is essentially a national Government. There might be necessity for changes in the mechanism of that Government or its policies here and there but anything that tends to weaken the hands of His Highness or His Highness' Government, or renders possible commotions, risings and riots at this juncture is strongly to be deprecated. Certain honourable members who in their natural environment are very quiet and law-abiding, when they get on to public platforms find it very difficult to restrain their tongues, their imaginations and their powers of invective. Agitations are easily started, but are difficult to quell. There are occasions when certain types of agitation may produce the most unlooked for and disastrous results. At this juncture when everything is so to say in a nebulous state and when people's nerves are highly strung, I make an earnest appeal to this House and through this House to the people at large that any agitation should be

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confined to the solution of specific and immediate grievances and that an agitation for fundamental constitutional changes should not be conducted in the State on the basis of a mass movement especially now. Having said that, I rely upon the good sense of the honourable members of this House who, as representatives of the people will, I trust, carry this message, if they approve of it, to the people at large.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(*contd.*)

DEMAND NO. VII—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INCLUDING WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE—(*contd.*)

[*Motion by Mr. P. Narayana Pillai to reduce the allotment of Rs. 39,125 for Direction by Re. 1 in order to discuss the desirability of abolishing toll-gates*—(contd.)]

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, there are a number of toll gates in the State. Each toll gate will have a number of branches established in every nook and corner so that no vehicle could escape payment, whatever route they chose or however short the distance they travel. There may not be much harm in realising tolls from the owners of private cars, because only people who can afford to make such payments own cars. But in the case of bandies and bullock carts it is a case of mere extortion. An amount of 4 chuckrams may be a small thing for a rich man but it is a big amount sufficient to provide one meal for a professional cart driver and his family. Again the existence of a number of branches for each toll gate causes serious inconvenience to the travelling public. The rule is that if toll is paid at one place, no more toll should be paid in any of the other branches of the same toll gate. But a sort of obstruction is caused in almost all these places. The travelling public will have to stop and wait to undergo the leisurely checking and scrutiny of toll gate keepers. This is a menace and is a regular nuisance. So it is high time that toll gates are abolished.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. അനേകലക്ഷം രൂപാ ചെലവുചെയ്തു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഉണ്ടാക്കിവരുന്ന റോഡുകളിൽ നിന്നും എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നതു ടോൾഗേറു മൂലമായതുകൊണ്ടു് മാത്രമാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നതു്.

സർ, ഈ ടോൾഗേറിൽനിന്നും ലഭിക്കുന്നവരവുതന്നെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു റോഡിനുവേണ്ടിയും മറും ചെലവാക്കുന്നതിന്റെ പത്തിലൊരംശം വരികയില്ല. ആ നിലക്കു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ഇപ്പോൾ കിട്ടിവരുന്ന ആദായംതന്നെ നിറുത്തിക്കളയുന്നതു് വളരെ നഷ്ടംവരുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. സാധാരണമായി എല്ലാ ഗവണ്മെൻറുകളും ടോൾഗേറു സിസ്റ്റം ആദരിച്ചുവരുന്നതായിട്ടാണു് എന്റെ അറിവു്. മദ്രാസിൽ ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഏതൊ ഒരു പുതിയ നിയമം ഉണ്ടെന്നു എനിക്കറിയാം. വാഹനങ്ങൾ രജിസ്റ്റർ ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ ടോൾഗേ

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